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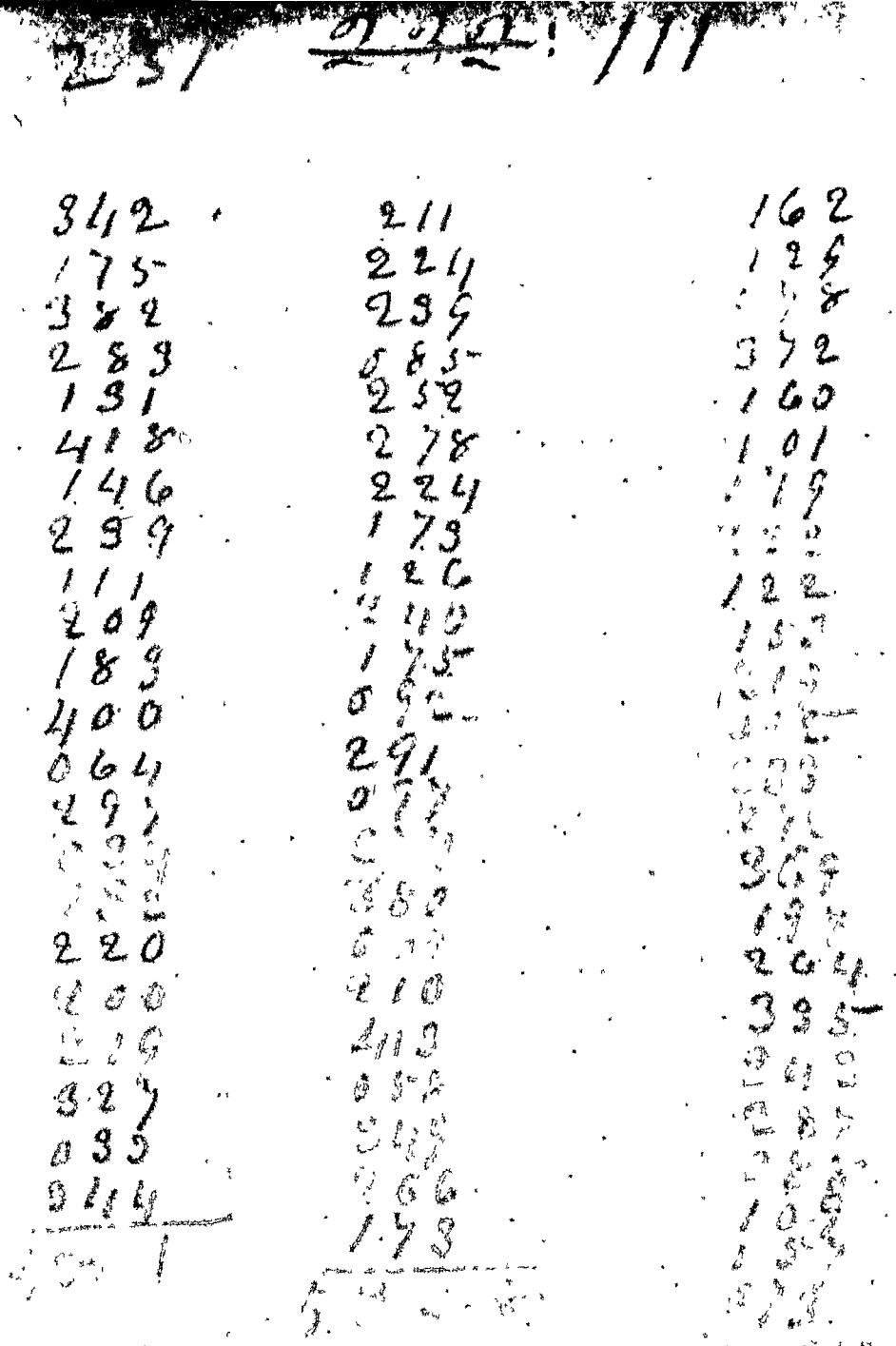

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Haverhill 16th February 1777

Sir

Agreeable to your instructions I have proceeded and sent a party to St Francois, also to the indians in the Eastern parts and to Caughnawaga. I have now three parties in Canada, there is some families of indians come in to inform that the Regulars are very severe upon them to take up arms, and there is a number of our people there raising Companies of Rangers, and that there is a number of families more would come in if they had any thing to support themselves with, as Genl Carlton will not suffer them to purchase either Blankets or Powder unless they will take up arms. These Indians further inform that there is very few Indians if any that would take up arms against us in Canada. could they but once be right informed into the circumstances of affairs, the news they have is much against us and in favour of the ministry as people are constantly deserting and coming that way, which fills them with all manner of news. they also say they are informed by Sir John Johnson and Lorrance that they want some companies of light Infantry & Indians to come down upon Connecticut River, and across Lake Champlain, the same intelligence we also have by several deserters from Canada who have come through this way - I expect to have a number of Indians in here in about a fortnight shod be glad of your instructions what I must do with them whether I must supply and in what manner, as I shall then have intelligence of what is passing in Canada, those Indians that are come in are desirous of having a block house built on Connecticut River near Canada Line where they would make their abode until this dispute is ended. It is the opinion of all people who are friends to Liberty, as also the Indians that it would be of great advantage to have Companies of Rangers kept scouting to Lake Champlain, Misisque Bay &c, as they would then take up all going and coming from Canada and there is a great number of brave men here who would willingly engage as Rangers, also a number of Carpenters, which if wanted at Ticonderoga in

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assisting to build sho^d be sent on the shortest notice, if it is your pleasure for such a thing to be done sho^d be glad to know it as there is a quantity of fat cattle to be sold, which will be drove off soon unless I should engage them for that service as soon as I receive your instructions what to do shall immediately proceed to put them in force in the most best and quickest manner in my power as I am always ready to obey what orders I may receive. I shall want some money, and whatever the bearer Capt. Young gives his receipt for I be accountable for. whether to purchase cattle or any other purpose you may direct Several of the Indians who have come in are desireous to engage in our service. It is the opinion of people on Connecticut River that if a little Fort was built agreable to the desire of the Indians, that it would be a great safe guard to this part of the Continent and we sho^d certainly have all the intelligence that they would be able to procure, and they all affirm that they never expect any succour from any part only from Congress. I have supported several families myself as they have never been invited by any one except myself to come into these parts—

Gen^l Schuyler—

I. Beedle

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Albany Feb 20th 1777

Dear Sir.

I have done myself the pleasure to write you a long letter by Dr = Stringer. I cannot however let Colo Rieush depart hence without a line introduceing him to you. a liberty I never presume to take with my friends, unless I can answer for the person in whose favor it is given. Rieush is such a one. active, & of amiable manners. modest to a fault. If the Poles in general are like him, I shall esteem them as the first of People.

He carries the Marquis de La Fayettes dispatches - I apprehend they will not be very agreeable to some people with you.

Adieu, dear Sir

most sincerely your friend & Servt

P. Schuyler

Hon.ble Governeur Morris Esqr

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24th Feb.y. 1777

Sir

Since I wrote to you the scout from Saint Francois is arrived who bring the following intelligence, that they went within 25 miles of the village where they met 4 families of Indians who were going out a hunting they had a pass from the officer of the Regulars who command at that place, to hunt and not upon any pretence to come nigh this River on pain of death. A party of Regulars & Canadians to come this winter to take a survey of the Lake Ampnobayog and was expected to come this way: the party from Mr Metcalfs is arrived. who says that upon their arrival they found every thing desolated. and the party of Regulars. these were between 60 & 100 men & also in the village from Montreal to Quebec parties were there & that they were bringing in provisions very fast to Montreal. Saint Francois & Saint Johns, that the British troops used them extreemely ill, and that a number of Indians officers from different tribes were enlisting at St Francois, but met with no success. the whole of Indians joined as these Indians say were about 1000 and more sent for. but not as yet come. the common talk of the Indians in Canada is, they would be glad to hear that the perch would join us, and they would willingly take up arms to assist us, & are very glad to hear of news in our favour. those Indians belonging to St Francois tribe say they wo'd never go into Canada again could they get supplies this way= the Lake Ampnobagog is the head of St Francois River about 3 days march from the upper settlement on Connecticut River where they are going to make their survey & it is generally supposed they are upon the plan of reconoitering geoing to come this way in order to distress the inhabitants on this River. if it is your Honours pleasure that a party sho'd go as scouts from hence it is necessary that the party from the County of Gloucester be stopt. there is also a party of men here, raised by the State of New York, under the command of Major Hosington dec'd who have not done 3 days duty since raised, it is necessary some person sho'd be appointed to see that duty is done, as it is only expending the Continets money and

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destroying provisions, for further particulars, the bearer Capt. Johnson can inform you = The party that went to Metealfs at Missigne Bay is returned, made no discoveries, only found his house evacuated - I should be glad your Honor wo^d send by the bearer some belts of Wampum as I have none, also a little hard cash, as I shall want to send to Canada again. One of those Indians this scout met with belong^d to the micmac tribe which lies below Quebec who s^d their tribe used to get the chief of their subsistance from Nova Scotia. Since Capt Cole went there they are deprived of all subsistance from that quarter and begs they may be relieved this way. Your Honors directions, I should be glad to know relating them as soon as the other scout arrives your honor will be informed.

To Genl. Schuyler. I Beedle.

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Albany February 27=1777

Your Letter of the 10th instant has been delivered me by Capt Young, to whom I have paid on your account one hundred and fifty dollars, which you will please to dispose of with as much economy as the nature of the service will permit, keeping exact accounts of your expenditures.

Whatever Indians may come from Canada as friends to us you will treat in the civilest manner and contribute something towards their support— as to building a block house for their protection I do not see any great necessity for it, as I do not apprehend that any parties of the Enemy will go so far east as Conecticut River.

What those that are come from Canada relate as to Sir John Johnson & Loramer's intentions is without foundation. Sir John left Canada early last fall and I have good information that Loramier is in disgrace with General Carlton—

The experience we have had of ranging companies unless be regularly enlisted for us no reason to expect much it is besides a measure that I enter into without the permission of Congress.

I believe the Chief Engineer and D. Quarter Master General are both provided with a sufficient number of Carpenters. As soon as you receive any further intelligence you will communicate it to me. I am Sir.

Your most Obt. Hble. Servt.

Ph. Schuyler

Colonel Beedle a

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231 [illegible]

Newbury 17th. March 1777

Sir.

By some hints yesterday I am thoughtful that some persons from the west part of Connecticut who seem to be coming up and gone Coos, will try to pass to Canada by way of Kemphrymagog we, if so a large scout must be sent to Intercept them and I think a Sargeant should be placed in Haverhill and another at Newbury in the most convenient places to intercept and examine all travellers that way. If you are well and travelling this way, I wish you would call on otherwise I will call on you—

I am yours &c.

Jacob Bayley.

Timothy Bedel

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Lebenon Sunday Evening 30ck March 1777

Sir

Col Chase is under the operation of the small pox at the pest house in Lebenon, and since he was confined with the disorder he has received orders from General Fulsom to raise 65 men out of his Regiment and the Colonel ordered me to write to you on the affair, and send out to you Desiring you to come to Lebenon this week and be in by Tuesday Night this week so he might see you a Wednesday morning he desires you wont fail of seeing him by that time, the Colonel is in a house that is not infected and he is not broken out nor wont till the latter end of the week, so this will be no danger of being in his company on account of infecting your clothes. I shall go to the pest house Wednesday morning I will meet you Major Wales' and wait upon you out where the Col is the orders he has received is of importance and his being confined, he cannot, take no denial of seeing you to consult with you on the matter from

Your Humble Servant

Samuel Paine by orders
of Col Chase

Col Elish Paine
at

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Haverhill State of New Hampshire
22 April 1777

Sir

Your favour by Capt Young & Johnson I rec'd and have noted them with exactness. I have had some parties out and by the best intelligence I can get the Indians in our parts are very still but that the enemy are preparing to come on these. We can have a quantity of men raised here during the War on very short notice. If you think it necessary to raise only one company of Rangers. I coud have a prisoner from Saint Johns or St Francois any time when you please, as we have officers and a number of men here who stand ready to engage in that service & are not willing in any other, they are men who have been in the service with me both this war and the last and are very urgent to come under my command and inspection any orders or Commands you may please to send I am willing to observe & obey to the utmost of my power —

Gen'l Schuyler

P. Beedle Jr

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Albany 26th Apr. 1777

Dear Sir,

Since you left this place I have been confined with a most severe attact of the rheumatism, confined to my room and chiefly to my bed, unable to help myself. I am now so far recovered as to be able, I hope in a few days to set out to join the Regt. will serve this Campaign with General Washington. I am not a little surprised that we have not heard from you since left this place, tho' perhaps I may not be the secret, and that your employer is better satisfied than myself.

I have a favour to beg which is that you will let me have a particular account of the distance rout and difficulties attending the march of a body of men from your house or the upper settlement on Cohoas, to St Francois in Canada which I am sure you must have a perfect knowledge of. I should also be glad of a plan or sketch of that county in any rough way even if it was drawn by an Indian — I leave you to guess the reason of my being so particular on this head, assuring you only that I am anxious to see, once more my own county, which possibly may be the case before the end of this campaign — many letters miscarry you will be careful to write by a safe opportunity as soon after the receipt of this as you possibly can — Direct to Col Hazen in Camp at Head Quarters.

I hope you will not neglect the opportunity into your hands of serving yourself and country. Gen. Gates is to command at Crown Point and I believe the Northern department. Gen. Schuyler is at Philadelphia when I believe Congress will detain him Gen Washington's army is augmenting daily, and from all accounts we have great reason to believe that this will not be a hard campaign, the worst being over and that we shall in the end come off Triumphant. All account from Europe are favorable tho' more of late of a particular nature. The Tories in the State of New York in particular in this part of it have been very busy; which is the only reason that induces me to believe that a Junction of the two armies intended — The New England States are in providing their men.

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However I am not apprehensive any attact can or will be made on —— before the month of June, perhaps not then, as they have neither men or provisions in the Country to it, until a reinforcement and a new supply arrives from Europe, Compliments to Mr Bedle and believe me ever to be.

Dear Sir

Your mst Obt. Hbl. Servt.

Moses Hazen

Col Bedle 3

To the Honorable the General Assembly, or
Committee of war of the State of Conecticut;
Worthy Gentlemen.

I do by no means distrust the wisdom of the Continent that a cartel for the exchange of Prisoners hath not yet taken place. Those that have the management of this affair have undoubtedly their political reasons for its delay.

Altho this mode of existance is very irksome, yet it is not deplorable, by reason of hope, the officers on parole seem to be mere ciphers, exempted from both danger and however reflefs man. Indeed will never be easie in any circumstances whatever but it is extremely painful to a generous and enterprising mind to be thus debared from sharing the glories that are to be revealed in the course of this campain, the officers most generally lament the appearance of their continued fate—

One of the English Officers told me that General Washington has wrote to General Howe on the subject of my Exchange, and that General How in consequence of this writing considers me as full colonel, which I never pretended, Probably General Washington called me so, without previously legening the high sound by rising the substantive word, viz: Lieutenant, be this as it will, it is a paradox to me, to support that the English General would not exchange me for one of my rank, of their own officers, inasmuch as my Experience in war cannot be supposed to equal his.

The timely supply of thirty five pounds currency from the Treasury which I received of brother Levi Allen, Exacts my most grateful acknowledgements.

I am gentlemen your most obedient obliged and humble Servant

Ethan Allen—

30th April 1777
Long Island

(superscribed)

"To the Hon, the Genl Assembly of the State of Conn"

(1 f)

I certify this to be a true copy of the original letter on file in this office.

N A Phelps Secretary

Office of Secretary of State, Stamford Oct 3d. 1848

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Haverhill State of New Hampshire 8th June 1777

Sir

I received your favour with Genl Schuylers letter inclosed. Joseph Treversie is now at my house, and has been sick ever since he arrived here. and unable to proceed to Canada. I immediately procured a person well acquainted with that Country to go with the other two. I furnished them provisions, and every other necessary they might want for their journey. they are not as yet returned but expect them in a short time. I supplied the first party of Frenchmen with money to bear their expences from here to Albany they being quite destitute.

I am Sr Your Obt Hble. Servt.

Jimy Bedel

Shall be glad you would forward Colo Hazens letter as quick as possible—

Mr Wells—

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Copy of Orders to Elisha Avery Esq; D.C.G.
dated Saratoga June 14. 1777

Sir.

By letters this moment received from General St Clair am advised that there is only seven weeks provisions at Ticonderoga. I am also informed that there is no more at Fort George than what is Daily necessary for the daily consumption of the Garrison. If the orders I gave you early last winter had been complied with we should not have laboured under the present distress. If my memory serves me (for I have not my books with me) — I directed you to lay in provisions at Ticonderoga to support a Garrison of three thousand men to the first of april besides eight months provisions for five thousand men at Fort George, Fort Anne & Skeensborough, and alike quantity at Albany —

..... I charge you in the most positive manner hasten what Salted Beef and pork you may have to Albany, or to any of the Posts on Hudsons river, between Albany & Ft. Edwards and to many fat Cattle as possible, and to cause them to be drove to Ticonderoga without delay — If we are obliged to abandon Ticonderoga for want of provisions I leave you to judge of the consequences to yourself.

I am &c
Ph. Schuyler —

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Haverhill 22nd June 1777

Sir

Since my last to you three Scouts have returned from Canada
I have a Scout of Indians out that way. who I expect daily in as
they have been gone almost six weeks. Joseph Traversie, will I
believe set out next week, I shall provide hands to go with him who
are friends to the United States, and knows that country very well.
he has been sick ever since he came here. the Indians who came in
here are very peaceable and I am satisfied there is no danger of their
joining the British troops. I made my report to Genl Gates who
commanded at Albany your Honor then being at Philadelphia.
It wod be necessary that Some Soldiers shod be here as it is very easy
to take a prisoner, almost at any time from St Johns &c if you shod
think it of any advantage to the States. I am glad to hear of your
Honors appointment to the Command of the Northern department
as the Generality of people here was very uneasy when they heard
of your Honors being gon to the Southward—

I. Beedle

Genl Schuyler—

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Copy of a letter to Major General St Clair.
dated Saratoga Thursday morning
June 26. 1777

Dear General—

Your Favour of the 24th was delivered me last evening. If the Enemy should not mean a serious attack on your Post, their movement is probably calculated to cover an attempt on New Hampshire, the Mohawk river, or to cut off the communication between Fort George and Fort Edward, or perhaps all three. I wish you therefore to keep a small scout on the east side of the Lake, near the road leading from St. John's to New Hampshire, and others as far west as the road leading to the north branch of Hudson River—

I have dispatched an express to Congress & General Washington, and have entreated the latter to afford us a reinforcement. Pray let nothing be left at the landing, and the batteaus be brought over as soon as possible that your retreat may not be cut off— should you be able to maintain your post. I cannot learn that any troops are arrived at Albany. I shall hasten to that place to forward on what I can, and to be in the way to bring up the militia if necessary— God bless you & believe me &c

Ph Schuyler—

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Extract from a letter from the Honnierable James Duane, Philips Livingston and William Duer, Delegates in the Continental Congress, to the Hon, Council of safety for the State of New-York.

Philadelphia. 2d July — 1777

"Honnorable Gentlemen —

Congress between this and 26th of June, have spent the greater part of four days in considering the claim of some of the inhabitants of our State to a new government independent of the community, and the letters and remonstrances of our late convention and your Honourable Council, on that interesting subject.

The principles upon which this ambitious project was granted were admitted to be of universal concern to the general confederacy; and they were considered as particularly odious, from the attempt to confirm them by the grossest misrepresentations of the resolutions of Congress. No debate was ever conducted with more deliberation and solemnity, and the decision was such as in our judgment, ought for the present, to be satisfactory; it does not, it is true, come up to the requisition of our State, that the insurgents should be recommended to a peaceable submission to it jurisdiction by the authority of Congress, and that Warners regiment should be discharged; But by totally reprobating the idea that a minority can establish an independance of the community of which they are members, by proclaiming the duty of Congress to secure and defend the several communities of which it is composed;

"By censuring the supposition that Congress could do, recommend or countainance any thing injurious to the rights and jurisdiction of those communities;

"By declairing expressly that the independant government attempted to be established by those misguided people, can derive no countainance or justification from the particular resolutions on which it is pretended to be founded, or from any other act or proceeding of Congress;

"By the contemptuous rejection of the petition to be received and ranked as a free State, and to be represented by their own

Delegates in Congress:

"By the apology to the State of New-York for raising Warners regiment, implied in the explanation of the motives which you rise to it, and by the severe censure of Doct. Young's address, encouraging those people to persevere in their defection=

"By all these different resolutions we think a substantive foundation, on general and undeniable principles is laid either for reclaiming our fellow citizens to their duty and a submission to the laws, by the force of reason and persuasion, and the fears of offending a whole continent; or should they obstinately persevere in their revolt, for a future requisition of the aid of Congress, administered in such manner as the opposition of the disaffected, and our own circumstances, may render expedient—"

"We flatter ourselves, therefore that we shall meet with your approbation, and that our country will be pleased and benefitted by the measures adopted on this occasion, may we be permitted to suggest the propriety of despatching commissioners, without delay to explaine and enforce, among our too aspiring countrymen there resolutions of Congress, and to seize the advantage which the first impression of unexpected disappointment & condemnation from the only tribunal they fear, may make on their minds in order to induce them to a submission of your jurisdiction."

"This appears to us to be the more necessary, as Mr Roger Sherman, of Connecticut, who brought in the petition for these people of Congress, and has all along acted openly as their advocate and patron and in the last debate plead their cause with a Zeal and passion which he never discovered in any other instance, and which in a judge, between a State and some of its own members, was far from being commendable. This gentleman, we say, immediately on passing the resolution, procured copies, and having obtained leave of absence, is already set out on his journey to the Eastward— what may be his views with respect to our dispute, we know not, but to his enmity and officiousness you ought not to be strangers,

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"We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect honorable gentlemen,

"Your most obedient humble servants.

"Phil. Livingston.

"James Duane.

"Wm. Duer.

"Hon[l]. Council of Safety
for the State of New-York"

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Copy of a letter to Major General St Clair
dated Fort Edward July 8. 1777

Dear General,

I wrote you last night from Saratoga, wishing you to direct your march with the utmost expedition to Fort Ann or this place. I now most earnestly renew the request. I had forgot to give directions about the security of the people on the Grants. I think it will be right to leave Colonel Warner with his regiment and the militia belonging to the Grants. If you are of the same opinion, you will give the orders accordingly. I wish Colonel Warner to drive the cattle in that part of the Country into his rear and to send off every carriage that may be serviceable to the enemy and such as cannot be sent off to be destroyed. Whatever cattle are sufficiently in flesh to be killed for the Troops he must send on here by a safe route.

Some of the enemy are harrassing us about Fort Ann. I wish you may fall in with them.

The reinforcement from below is marching up and so are the militia, and I think when you join us, we shall not have occasion to fear that the enemy will make any further progress.

P. Schuyler.

Extracts of a letter to his Excellency General Washington
dated Ft. Edward July 14, 1777.

Colonel Warner, with the remains of his Regiment, I have ordered to remain on what are commonly called the New Hampshire Grants, together with the militia from that part of the State. He has directions to drive off all the cattle and carriages; but whether he will be able to effect it is a doubt, as I am informed a very great proportion of the inhabitants are taking protection from General Burgoyne, as most of those in this quarter are willing to do.

Desertion prevails and decays gains ground, nor is it to be wondered, for we have neither tents, houses, barracks boards, or any shelter, except a little brush, every rains that falls, and we have it in great abundance almost every day, wets the men to the skin. We are besides in great want of every kind of necessary, provisions excepted. Camp Kettles are have so few that we cannot afford one to twenty men.

Inclose your Excellency a copy of the proceedings of a council of General officers, held at Ticonderoga, copy of which I beg you will transmit to Congress, and be so good as to mention that I have not time to myself the honour to write them

— — — —

P. Schuyler.

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In Council of safety State of Vermont—
Bennington 11th. August 1777—

Dear Sir.

As the Council is much crowded with busineſs, as one of our Members is with our Enemies (viz Esq Steneer) as an attendance of all the Members is required (that are on this side the mountain) to make a quorum, and as some of us want to visit our families, we wish for your speedy attendance on the Council, together with the other Members on the east side of the mountain, we have herewith sent an expreſs to Col. Marsh and Alcott, for one half of their militia the Enemy have pointed their whole force toward Albany and evacuated this State entirely, they have left Ticonderoga with but about 100 men, as we find by our friends who they have taken prisoners, and have made their escape.

Our Army lies at Still water and recruits are daily passing through this town on their way to join them. Their army is in part as low down as Saratoga, the rest at Fort Edward. Their Indians do some mischief by fireing on scattering parties &c
A subaltern Officer of our Rangers returned last evening with a small scouting party of six men only from Saratoga with two Tory prisoners, eight head of cattle, a span of horses and a waggone

Pr. Order

Paul Spooner D. Sec'ty.

Brig. Gen. Bayley

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Copy of a letter to Colonel Simmons of the Militia of Massachusetts Bay dated

Fort Edward. July 15th 1777.

Sir.

I wish to extend my care and attention to every part of the Country, and afford assistance wherever it is wanted, but I am very weak here, and the enemy, as I am informed are gon to Ticonderoga, to come through Lake George. However assistance is wanted on the grants, and you will march four or five hundred men to aid Colonel Warner, the remainder of the militia to come this way

P. Schuyler,

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State of Vermont

In Council of Safety Bennington 13th augt. 1777

Dear Cols

By Express this Day received from the Commanding officer of the Northen Department we Learn that a Door has now opened for the Hops of this State to do Duty on this field the North River which will be Clear from General Schuylers Command and as an Expedition is on foot of the greatest importance which is to remain a Secret till the Troops are Collected these are therefore the most Positive terms to Require you without a moments Loss of Time to march one half of the Regiment under your Command to this Place no small excuse at this junction can be received

Whilst I am writing this we are informed by Express that a Large Body of the Enemy's Troops war Discovered two hours ago in St Work 12 Mills from this Place and another Body at Cambridge About 18 Mills from this that they march Boldly in the Road and there will Doubtless be an attack at or near this Place within 24 hours who have the assistance of Majr general Stark with his Brigade You will hurry what Rangers forward and Recruited with all Speed now is the time Sr

I am Sr your Humble Learvant

Sr I Desier you would By order of Council send this Express to General Baley — Peter Olcott Colo Col Marsh, a Copy To may Israel Smith

Jonas Fay } vice President

From a Connecticut Paper Nov. 1777

American Patriotism and Fortitude exemplified.

An Anecdote.

A good old gentleman that had five Sons in the Field, at the celebrated action of Bennington, in August 1777, whose furrowed cheeks and Silver locks added veneralenefs to his hoary brows, being told that he was unfortunate in one of his Sons, replied, what, has he misbehaved, did he desert his post; or shrink from the charge! — No Sir, Says the informant, worse than that, he is among the Slain, he fell contending mightily in the cause; — then I am Satisfied, thereplied the venerable Sire, bring him in and lay him before me, that at leisure I may behold and survey the darling of my Soul — upon which the corps was brought and laid before him, all besmeared with dirt and gore, he then called for a bowl of water and a napkin, and with his own hands washed the gore from his Son's corps and wiped his gaping wounds, with a complacents as he himself expressed it, which before he had never felt or experienced.

How beautiful is death when earned by virtue, how precious the blood that is shed for ones country and for the ransom of Millions. How triumphant to fall, when by falling we rise to conquest, honour and immortality.

May America never want of her Sons to immitate so bright an example, and to become rivals for Such distinguished glory, to Stand forth in the hour of her distress and nobly vindicate her cause and avenge her wrongs.

An Eye witness,
at Bennington —

Bennington
16th. August 1777.

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State of Vermont
In Council of Safety Bennington 15th. august 1777
Gentlemen

Brigr General Starks from the State of New-Hampshire with his Brigade together with the Militia & Companies of Rangers raised by this State with part of Colo Symonds Regiment of the militia are now in action with a Number of the Enemies Troops assembled near this Place which has been for some time very severe, we have now Possession (taken from them this day) Four Brass field Pieces Ordnance Stores & Ordnance Stern's &c —
And this moment four or five hundred Prisoners have arrived we have taken the Ground altho Fortified by Intrenchments &c but after being drove about one mile and the Enemy being reinforced made a Second Stand & still continue the action the Loss on each side is doubtless considerable, but the Numbers cannot accertain —

You are therefore in the most pressing Terms requested by Genl Starks & this Council to forward the whole of the Militia under your several Commands to this place without one minutes loss of time they will proceed on Horse back with all the ammunition that can be provided conveniently on our present exertion depends the Fate of thousands —

I am
Gen.
Your most Obd & Hble Servt
Jonas Fay Vice President

To the Genl nearest Commanding Regts in the States

Copy of Capt Samuel Robinson Roll Aug 16th 1777.

War in Battle 16th August 1777. at Bennington

Robert Cashman	Phineas Wright
Gied Spencer	John Smith
William Henery	Jesse Belnap
Henry Walleridge	Silvanus Brown
Rufus Branch	John Lorbs
John Larnard	Steven Williams
Thomas, Abel	William Post
Nathan Lawrence	Daived Safford
Josiah Breest	Jered Post
David Fay Fifer	Jeremiah Bingham
Lenard Robinson	Samuel Slocum
Daniel Biddlecome	John Marble
Levi Hathaway	Ephram Marble
Abraham Hathaway	Aaron Hubble
Reuben Calvin	Samuel Safford Jun
Elyphlet Stickney	Aaron Smith
Daiel Reude	Ephraim Smith
Bengemen Holems	Samuel Henery
James Mairwater	Edward Henderson
——men Alger	Jonathan Hanes
Ammi Fuller	Archelus Tupper
Ezekel Brewster	Daniel Warner
George Dale	Lieut Simeon Hatteway
John Clark	Josiah Hurd
Jehoshphat Holmes	Ezekiel Bruster
Moses Rice	Solomon Leason
Benjar Whipple jun	Thomas Ledding
Silas Robinson	John Rigna
John Weeks	Elisha Smith
Moses Scott	Moses Scott
Alphus Hathaway	Solomon Safford
Solomon Walbridge	Joseph Roe
Ebenezer Bracket	Willim Terrill
Jehil Smith	Noah Beach
Asa Branch	Simeon Seak
	Aaron Miller

Received of Capt Samuel Robinson five dollars
of plunder money Sept 23d, 1777

Robert Cochrin
Gideon Spencer
Thomas Abott
Nathaiel Laurence
Moses Scott
Joseph Kelogg
Daniel Reede
Josiah Brush
Rufus Branch
Benj Holms
Thomas Selden
Clish Smith
William Gerrit
Solomon Leason
John Kipron
Jonah Bruster
John Marble
Gershem Beach
Simeon Leard
Ben Mansfield
Edward Henderson
Rosel Post
William Post
Jered Post
John Larrence
Jehial Smith

Silvanus Brown
Jona Hopkins
John Clark
Widow Walbridge
Phineas Wright
Samuel Hocum
Elisha Wright
Daniel Bidlecome
Jesse Belnap
Benjmin Whipple jun
Steven Williams
Ammoni Fuller
Aaron Smith
Samuel Safford jun
Jehoshaphat Holems
John Weeks
Simeon Hatheway
Ezekel Brewster
Joseph Hurel
Levi Hatheway
Jeremiah Bingham
Aaron Hubel
Amasy Sadlet
Samuel Hewes
Solomon Safford
Archibald Tupper
Absolom Tupper

1775

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9 August 1777

Sir I understand you are on the road for this place in order to go to Bennington &c. I have been that way as far as Pittsfield with my Regiment where I met Maj Ledgwick who had verbal orders to stop all the militia that were coming as the affair is all over at Bennington, Genl Stark with about 600 Militia hath took about 700 of the Enemy Prisoners who were this night at Sumsburg about 150 of the Enemy killed, a number wounded so that out of about 1700 of the Enemy that came out but about 700 are returned to Fort Edward, Our people took five field pieces which has all the Enemy had ordnance Stores &c &c so that if you are marching to the relief of our people at Bennington. I thought it necessary to inform you of the premises that you may conduct yourself accordingly &c

Canaan, Aug. 19th. 12 oClock at Night 1777

I am in haste

Charles Burbee,

To Lt Col. Smith of New Hartford

Taken one Lt. Col. — one major, 5 Captains, 12 Lieuts, 4 Ensigns, 2 Cornets, one Judge advocate — one Baron — 2 Canadians Officers 3 Surgeons, 37 British — 398 Germans — 38 Canadians, 175 Tories, Beside the wounded, 2 Brass Field pieces 6lb. Pounder — 24 do

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Newbury aug^{t} 17. 1777

Sr

: Last night an Express arrived to Gen^{l} Bayley for one half of the Militia of Col olcott Regiment with Expres I have sent you by the Bearer it is Generals Bayleys opinion that although there has no Expres arrived as yet to our Regiment as we no off, yet it is the Indispensible duty of our Regiment as many as Possibly can to turn out volunteers as there seams to be an Opening for us to Gain Some advantage of our Enemy if we Exert ourselves. I doubt not but a considerable Number of our people would turn out if you should think it advisable and if Maj^{r} Child would go as there Leader, we shall wait your orders and advice in the matter but be in as much Readiness as possible I should have waited on you myself but am very unwell,

I am Sir your Servt.

Jon^{a} Hale.

Majr Jon^{a} Hale to Col
Israel Morey Newbury vt
aug^{t} 17. 1777.

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Bennington 20th August 1777.

To Capt Samuel Robinson

You are hereby required to make Search of Lieut Jacob Hides house for plunder taken in the late Action and condealed by the Soldiers, and if such can be found to bring it immediately to this Court. Also take Alexander Gorden and his wife and any other you may find that has so consealed any plunder Taken as aforesaid and bring them Forthwith before this Court to answer their Conduct for doing. Given under my hand.

Wm Williams President

A letter from the Hons. Jas. Duane and Wm Duer. delegates in congress.

Hon. Gentlemen — Your despatches of the 15th instant we had the honour of receiving, with so minute an account of the situation of our distressed country, and your efforts for its preservation, as you have been pleased to furnish. We left nothing undone to procure the reinforcements which were in our opinion indespensably necessary for your safety. Van Courtlandt's and Livingstons battalions be seasonable relief but Colo. Morgans corps of riflemen will, we flatter ourselves, be of decisive advantage. The battles at Bryon county and at Bennington, so favourable to our affairs at the most critical junction; will undoubtedly raise the spirits of our fellow citizens; and as Newjersey is called upon for 1,000 men to garrison forts in the Highlands, with an express design to give the Militia of this State an opportunity of repairing to the northern frontiers and reinforceing the army there. It is to be hoped Gen Burgoyne will meet with an effectual check if not a total defeat.

"Gen "Howe's fleat were seen on the 14th instant — playing off the capes of Virginia, what are, his real intentions still remains an uncertainty, South Carolina is the only object worth his pursuit; but against such an enterprise the season seems to be an insurmountable obstacle, Should this however be the case the army must look to the northward, for vain will be attempt to follow General Howe throug the distant and unhealthy climes of the southern States, from which he can vanish at pleasure.

We have the honour to be with the utmost respect, honor, gentlemen,

Your most obedient & very humble Servt

"Jas Duane.
"Wm. Duer.

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"P. S. Since writing what proceeds, an express is arrived from Baltimore, giving us a certain account that the enemies fleet have entred the Chesepeak Bay, and yesterday Morning were near its head; their army by this time is probably landed, Gen Washington with the American troops lies about 20 miles from this city, and we presume will immediately move to the southward and attack the enemy, to whome he is probably superior in number independant of the Militia —

The hon. council of safety State of New-York Adjourned untill tomorrow 10 ho A. M, —

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Albany Sep 7th 1777

Dear Sir,

The day before yesterday, I was favoured with yours of the 27th august. I thank you for sympathising with me on my removal from the command, In this department at a time when our affairs were at the worst, & when no change could happen but what must be for the best Congress, I find fault me for painting in strong colors the situation we were in— and yet, I dare say, if I had not done it, & any capital misfortune had happened, they would have asked me why they were not truly informed— But my crime consists not in being a New England man in principle unless they alter them I hope I never shall be, Gen Gates is their Idol, because he is at their 40 If an inquiry into my conduct had not been ordred, I should have resigned the moment Gates relieved me, but as soon as that has taken place, I certainly shall quit. Of this I have advised Congress. I believe a certain Set will wish that they had not urged for an enquiry. I shall make my defence in such a manner as for the Public to see what has been my conduct & what that of others, & then, they may judge for themselves, and I trust they will easily discern that the cause of our misfortune in this department has originated where they perhaps little expect it did. When Gen: Gates took the command I inform'd him that I had advised Congress that I should remain some time in the department to afford him any assistance in my power and intreated he would call upon me whenever he thought proper, He has however not done it. He sent for, Gen: Tom Brock from town to a councel of war, but not for me, after that I could not with propriety give him my opinion of what ground he ought to passes, if Burgoyne should retreat what I intended to have done had I Remained in the command and been reinforced, I fully communicated to him, & shew'd the orders I had given Gens; Lincoln and Arnold, Hitherto he has not, as I am informed, made any

other disposition, with the force he has, which daily encreases, and may certainly immediately oblige Gen: Burgoyne to retire, or oblige him to fight with great disadvantage— But Gates is wholly ignorant of the country, & altho he can get people that can give him the best information yet it falls vastly short of being personally well acquainted with the passes & defiles of which every country has more or less, from this defect I fear every advantage will not be taken that might. Mr. Duane writes me, that he understood in Congress, that I should not be ordered down immediately on account of my private affairs Indeed, if they had ordered me immediately to Philad[a], I should not have obeyed let the consequences have been what they might, for I have provided no place for my family, & had moved none of the effects which the enemy have left me.

I expect the Indians down in a few days. In treating with them, I shall discriminate between the well effected and the scoundrels that have broken the faith. The latter must be brought to a proper sense of their evil deeds, & I shall be able to do it, I am just now informed that Burgoyne has drawn all his troops Shansborough & Fort ann this, with the bridge he has thrown over Hudson river, indicates that he means to attack our army. If Lincon is within a days march of Saratoga, & is order'd that way, I wish Burgoyn may advance, & Gates too, if the latter takes president Still water, Lincoln might be in the rear of Burgoyn before he could attack Gates. In which case the British army must be wholly ruined, nor need ours appre-hend a want of provisions should Burgoyn be so posted as, to render it imprudent to attack him, for there are means of sending in supplies, & if they escape the attention of Gates, I can point them out— I have not been favoured with a line from the Chief Justice since mine of the 9th of last month. Make my compliments to him, & thank him for sending forward the papers I sent him. Duane me that they have given great satisfaction. Compliments to the Chancellor, Taylor, Gansvoort

and the rest of your circle. What are both houses doing have you thought of a militia Law, who have you chosen Delegates to Congress. Pray steal a moment to answer these questions, Mrs Schuylers & Peggy join in the best wishes, the rest are gone to Boston. adieu

I am dear Sir very sincerly yours

Ph: Schuyler.

Please deliver the enclosed

Governeur Morris Esqr.

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Copy of a Letter to Colonel Bedle, dated

Albany September 11. 1777

Sir.— You having informed us that forty five families of the St Francois Indians are removed from thence & are now near the Lake Sumfrumagog, and inclined and incline to Settle on some part of Conecticut River above Cahoos. As it is of importance to Secure as many of the Indians to the interest of the American Cause as possible, Especeally such as reside in Canada, you will therefore please to take measures to remove the above mentioned Indians to some part of Connecticut river, as near the inhabitance as possible; and to induce them more readily to come, you will afford them some assistance in provisions & ammunition for which purpose I furnish you with Eight hundred dollars.—

You will please to advise me of your proceedings in this affair—

We are of opinion with you, that it is too late in the Campaign to Expect—any service from them in the Course of it, but it is of importance to importante to impress them ready with an idea that we expect that they hold themselves in readiness to give us their aid, should it be wanted in the next.

P. Schuyler—

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Sir

Agreable to your Orders dated 11th Sep. 1777 I have continually sent out parties to the Indians to inform them of our intentions & also to bring them in here which has been accomplished and they have been in readiness to join whenever required, also those who should be assistance in the service they should have an adequate reward. By yours of the 6th Jan.y 77. the Indians who have been employed in that service send a list of, they have had provisions, Cloathing, Snow Shoes &c. but not received any pay for their service — They are here waiting to have your honor answer by this Express from the news I received from the Penobscot I was informed they had sent to Quebec for a priest to come among them, but from the ill consequences that might follow (as Carlton soo'd send only such as best answered his purpose) I thot proper to send a party to treat with them on the subject (to wit) Traversie & Vincent who I have sent over to wait on your honor, with three of the Chiefs from that Tribe. Isho'd have sent an Interpreter but hear they Speak French I thought it needless —

By the best intelligence I can get from the Indians a large reinforcement is in the river St. Lawrance, the No. they cant ascertain but is very large — also when the vessels arrived at Ticonderoga they landed 8 men who dispersed different ways some to Albany and round them parts, some by missique Bay, which was met by some of our hunters who longed one night with them, there were four Subs. and four Sarg.ts a Sub, Sarg.t went together, those who loged with the Hunters — informed them they were keeping Guards on the Lake until the reinforcement arrived — that they had got the plans of all the roads from Coos — On the 16th March I received Order from Marquiss De Lafayette to raise a Regiment for the defence of those parts which are complete. I never received any money for that purpose, and have been at great expense, If I could have provisions money &c. I shod be able with my men to stop the progress of any party they might send to this quarter as also on the east side of the Lake, and those people who have been employed in the Indians Service. I have not one Copper.

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to give them and have not half enough to supply this Party with
to Albany, I am obliged to borrow, all my money being exhausted.
Lt. Col. Wheelock who waits upon your honor with this, will inform
you of every particular. If any money can be sent by him,
should be glad, otherwise the Public Cause must suffer —

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(Copy)

Camp near Independence Sept. 12th. 1777

These with my kindest regards to you and all friends we have taken Ticonderoga and the ground on that side and considerable plunder — Their own cannon and their own ammunition we have to fight them with — We took three hundred prisoners a number of officers, and retook more than one hundred of our prisoners and arms for them, and they use them with good spirit. We are besieging Mount Independence — Have been three days all round them, They are sending all they can down the Lake. They expect we shall have it, we have lost four or five men, but none from Coos. Peter went right up in fair shot and got one pack, a good Blanket and one Bull, which the Bull he will get 20 or 30 dollars for. Capt Stevens and Lieut. Paine went close to them this morning in the fog and got three oxen and one Cow, They will get the pay for them. Our men have got well clothed, I have had but little sleep these three nights for the roaring of cannon and the cracking of guns are continually in our ears. I must say I felt ugly when I first heard them firing. I have had but two chances of firing my gun at the Enemy when I fired the first time they gave me three for one. The cannon Balls and the Grape shot rattle like hail stones, but they dont kill men. I dont feel any more concerned here than I did at home in my business. If God will I intend to be at home in one fortnight from now.

I had to turn out the men into the woods this morning two hours before day. The guns cracked like brush burning I broke my shins that is all the damage I know of done.

I have heard from you but once since I came from home.

From your true and loving Husband

Thomas. Johnson.

(It is healthy here

To Mrs. Abagail Johnson.)

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Bennington 17th September 1777.

Dear General

We have received certain intelligence by two of our neighbours who left the enemy Last saturday, that they have called in all their out posts at and South of Lake George to join their main body at Saratoga together with their artillery & provisions, so that there is not even a guard left, also they see the Captain of the Battaumen, who told them he was ordered to destroy all the boats that he could not handily get along down the river, by no means to leave any behind, and they judge by all the movements of the enemy that they are determined for Albany, at all events, which agrees with every intelligence from General Gates army. We have certain intelligence by gentlemen who left there Last evening that General Burgoyne is on the move towards Stillwater & that they have done great mischief in burning the buildings at White Creek also have taken, some prisoners & cattle from Cambridge which alarms the inhabitants to that degree that they are removing their families and effects into the country, we are apprehensive of danger from the enemys small scouts who are daily discovered, between this and the enemys lines as there is no guards kept between this and General Gates Heat Quarters. We hope your Honor will take this matter under your consideration, and grant such relief as your wisdom shall direct, we are Dear Sir your most obedient & very

Humble Servant

By order

Thomas Chittenden Prest

Hon. Maj. Gen Lincoln

Copy. attest

Joseph Fay, Secy.

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Bennington Sept 15th 1777

General Starks,

Begs leave to Presents to the State of the Massachusets Bay: And Bray their Acceptance of the Savor one Hessian Gun & Bayonet, one Broad Swoard, one Brass Barreled Drum, and one Grenadiers Cap Taken from the Enemy in the Memorable Battle Fought at Walbourse ott on the 16th August last

And requests that the same may be kept in Commemoration of that Glorious Victory obtained over the Enemy on that day, by the United Troops of that State, those of New-Hampshire and Vermont, which victory ought to be Kept in memory and handed down to futurity, as a lasting and Laudable Example for the Sons & Daughters of the Victors in order never to suffer themselves to become the Prey of those mercenary Tyrants & British Syecophants who are duly endeavouring to ruin and destroy us

I am Gentlemen your friend and humble Servant

John Starks

To the Hon Council of the State of the Massachusets Bay.

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Camp on Behmus "Heeghts Sept 17. 1777

I have Recd Certain Intelligence that Genl Burgoyne has Cussed Skeensborough Fort ann Fort George Fort Edward and the Posts he Lately occupied to the southward of Lake George and Skeensborough, to be evacuated and the artilery Stores and Provisions - to be Brought to his army now at Van Vechters Mills seven miles north of this Camp. Except some heavy Cannon, which are carried to the five mile Island in Lake George from this it is Evident the Genl Designs to Reconnoitre all upon one Rash Stroke it is therefore the Indespensible Duty of all concerned to Exert themselves in Reinforceing this army without one moments Delay, the Militia from every Part should be ordered here with all Possible Expedition. I am Sir your

Most obedient hbl Servt
"Horatio Gates.

To the "Honourable the Chairman of the
Committee at Bennington to be forwarded to
the Committees to the Eastward thereof

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Camp above Stillwater 17th Sepr 1777.

Dear Sir

I embrace this opportunity by Express to inform you, that the Troops under our Command is to Leave this place Tomorrow, and the Enemy are within Six miles of our Army, and Engagement is daily expected; This is to intreat you as a Lover of your Country to hasten your Troops to join the army without Loss of time— It is probable the Fate of America may be determined in a few Days. Your Exertions in this will get you Everlasting Honour and Neglect to the Country—

I am Sir

Your most Obedt
very Hbl Servt

John Stark—

To the Commanding
Officer of the Militia
destined for the Northern
army from the State
of New Hapsire,

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Bennington 18th September. 1777.

Gentlemen

I am ordered by this Council to Inclose a Copy of General Gates Letter to you by which you will see the necessity of forwarding your Militia with Expedition, you will also Forward Copies to the Eastward of the Generals Letters Requesting them to come forward—

I am Gentlemen your
most obedient Hbl Servt

By order

Joseph Fay Secy—

To the Honourable Committee
of Charleston in New-Hampshire—

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North End of Lake George Landing.

General Lincoln Sept 18/ 77

With great fatigue after marching all Last night I arrived at this place at the Break of day and after the best disposition of the men. I could make immediately began the attack. Mutinies carried the Place. I then without any loss of time detached a considerable part of my men to the mills where a greater number of the Enemy were were posted. who were also soon made prisoners. a small number of whom, having taken possession of a Block house in that vicinity, were with more difficulty brot to submission. but at the sight of a Cannon they surrendered. during this season of success Mount Defiance also into our hands I have taken possession of the old French Lines at Ticonderoga and have Sent in a Flagg demanding the surrender of Ticonderoga and Mount Independence, in strong & peremptory terms— I have had as yet no information of the events of Col. Johnsons Attack on the Mount. My loss in these several actions is not more than 30 or 40 Killed and 80 wounded— The enemy's loss is less— I find myself in possession of 293 Prisoners viz= two Captains and other Commissaries Servants. = two Commissaries non Commissaries officers & Soldiers 143. British and 119 Canadiens & 18 artificers and retook more than 100 of our [illegible]. Total 293 exclusive of the prisoners retaken. The Water Crafts I have taken is 150 Bateaux below the falls on Lake Champlain; 50 above the falls including 17 Gun boats. & one armed Sloop, arms equal to the number of Prisoners and Some ammunition and many other things which I cannot now ascertain. I must not forget to mention a few Cannon which may prove of great Service to us.

Though my success hitherto has answered my most sanguine expectations I cannot promise myself great things the events of war being so dubious in their own nature; but shall do my best to distress the Enemy all in my power having regard to my own retreat— There is but a small quantity of Provisions

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at this place, which I think will necessitate my retreat in case we do not Carry ; and Indipendence— hope you will use your utmost endeavours, to give me assistance should I need in crossing the Lake &c. The Enemy have but a small force at Fort George, their boats are on our Island about 14 miles from this, guarded by 6 Companies having artillery. I have much to fear in respect to the prisoners being obliged to send them under a small guard.— I am well informed that a considerable reinforcement is herby expected up the Lake under the Command of Sir Jno Johnson.— This minute received General Powells answer to my demand in these words, Viz. "The Garrison Committed to my charge, I shall defend to the last." Indeed Sir I have little hopes of putting him to the necessity of giving it up, unless by the force of Col Johnson,

General Lincoln.

Jno Brown

(a Copy)

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Bennington 18 Sept. 1777.

Dear General

This day rec'd your orders to Forward the militia in consequence of which we have given orders for the militia to be raised immediately, also have Forwarded copies to New-Hampshire requesting the militia to be Forwarded with all expedition as also your letter to the County of Berkshire. nothing in the power of this Council will be neglected to prosecute your orders when called upon.

I am D. General your most Obedient
"Humble Servant
By order of Council
Joseph Fay, Secy

The Hon. Maj' Gen.l Gates
Commanding the northern Department.

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Bennington 18th September 1777

Dr Sir

I am directed by the Council to enclose to you a Copy of a letter just recd from General Gates by which you will see the importance of the exertion of the militia at this critical juncture for the salvation of this post if not the whole country. Therefore it is expected that you will exert yourself & come forward with all the militia you can raise out of your regiment without one moments loss of time. General Gates has sent to the State of Massachusetts & ordered us to send to New Hampshire which we have done & to the upper regiment in this State.

I am by order, Your Most Obt Hon. Servant

Thomas Chittenden
President

N.B. I heard by Capt. Dewey that your people now with the army are like sheep without a Shepherd, & very uneasy at your being absent and threaten to come off with General Burks men.

by order Thomas Chittenden.

Colo William Williams,

Copy examined Joseph Fay Secry

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State of Vermont

In Council of Safety Bennington 20 Sept. 1777

A gentlemen an acquaintance of mine was last evening in Council from the Enemies "Head Quarters monday Evening last, who has had such an acquaintance among them for some time past as to put it in his power to learn their strength and situation very nearly, they consist of six British Regts which amount to nearly 3000 men; and about the same number of foreign Troops. Exclusive of Tories, they have six weeks provisions which they keep constantly on board of their water Crafts. The Gentlemen learns further that they seem disposed to risque all on one desperate action, the front of their army expect to winter in Albany, if General "How penetrates up the North river if not at Ticonderoga, and their rear in Canada, any thing in the power of Council is always ready at your Command. I have honor to be D. General

By order

Your most Obedient Humble Servt.

Jonas Jay D. P.

N. B. by a person this instant arrived from St. George only 30 men are at that place and 2 Gun boats lye, unanchored at a distance from the land and that the Enemy have not more than 3 weeks provisions—

"Hon. Maj. General Gates—

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Bennington 18th Sept. 1777

Dear General.

I am ordered by this Council to Enclose a Copy of General Gates letter to you which agrees with ours of yesterday's date, we have also agreeable to the Generals orders sent copies to the Eastward, to Forward the militia of this State with all expedition — You will please consult General Bayley, & will doubtless think proper that he return or send to Forward the militia with all expedition.

I am D. General your most
Obedient Humble Servant
Joseph Fay Secy

"Hon. Maj. Gen. Lincoln

N. B. We have also sent copies to New Hampshire that the militia of that State be Forwarded with all expedition.

By order
Joseph Fay. Secy

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(State of New Hampshire)

To Cole Stephen Evans

You are hereby directed to march with your Regiment Lately Raised to Reenforce the Continental Army as soon as possible to Bennington where you will find Provisions and put yourself under the Command of General Starks if there or anywhere in those parts provided General Starks has determined to tarry in the service, who in that case will put himself under the commend in Chief of the Continental army But if General Starks should have left the service before you arrive there or be determined not to tarry then you are directed to put yourself uneder the Command of the General officer of the Continental army nearest to Bennington their to act as shall be preseribed by the Commander of the Continental army in that Department.

Copy of orders to Colo Stephen Evans to march to Bennington Sept 20th 1777.

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State of
Vermont } In Council of Safety Bennington 20th. Sept. 1777

Dear General

Your favour of the 18 Inst. was duly received for which I am ordered to return you the the thanks of this Council. A gentlemen was last evening in Council who left the enemys "Head Quarters monday evening last and has had such intelligence among them for a time past as to be able to collect their strength very nearly. They consist of six regiments of British which makes 3.000 & about the same number of foreign troops, besides tories. They have about six weeks provisions which they keep constantly on board their water crafts, except what is daily dealt to the troops. They seem engaged to resque all on one desperate battle. The front of the army expect to winter in Albany if Genl. How penetrates up North river; if not at Ticonderoga, and there rear in Canada, any service in the power of the Council is always ready at your command.

I have the Honor to be Dear General, by order of Council your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Jonas Fay V.P.

" "

Since closing this letter, a person has arrived from St George who brings intelligence that only 30 men are at that place and no water crafts except 2 Gun boats moved off at a distance from shore, since the above. Colo Johnson of Genl Starks Brigade mentions that on hearing a brisk cannonade yesterday afternoon, sent two of his men back on horses, who have returned & report that General Arnold with his detachments made prisoners of 250 of the Enemy and being reinforced possessed himself of three of the Enemies field pieces and made himself entire master of the ground. This is the best intelligence and the most exact I can obtain wishing your honor Success,

I am

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Dear General your most obedient
"Humble Servant.
Jonas Jay.
"

Brigadier General Stark,

Extract of a letter dated Camp near Stillwater
September. 20. 1777.

"You will before this have heard of yesterdays action but may not have heard the particulars. The firing commenced at one in the afternoon, between a detachment of Fraser's light Troops & Morgan's Corps of Riflemen.

The enemy on the first onset gave way, but being reinforced they recovered their ground, & in turn drove the Riflemen. Cilley's and Scammel's regiments were immediately sent to their support. I attended this reinforcement myself. We found Colo. Morgan had retired about half a mile from the field of battle. It was determined immediately to advance & engage the Enemy. They had posted themselves on an eminence with two Field pieces, & waited our attack, which was soon begun with great resolution on our side — —

After an hours engagement, the Enemy withdrew a second time. The riflemen took one of their field pieces but, for want of ammunition, lost it again. By this time two more regiments under Gates & Cooke came to our assistance. They engaged about 1000 of the Enemy on our left flank, but being overpowered by numbers gave way. This made a third reinforcement necessary which consists of Courtlands & Livingston's regiments. The engagement now became general between all the regiments, and I believe the greater part of the British Troops.

The Enemy had formed into a demi circle, & almost encircled our Troops. The fire was hot & incessant until dark. In some places we drove them — in other places, our troops gave way, neither side could boast of driveing the other from the field. In general we both kept our ground, tho' I cannot but think our loss was very unequal, & much greater on their side, than ours. We fought under cover of a wood, while they were drawn up in Battalions on a more open field; Our riflemen picked off many of their officers, who were on horse

back. The fire of their artillery & musketry was very ill directed, not a shot from their field pieces took effect, except among the limbs of trees. The return of our loss is not yet come in — I do not think it exceeds three hundred in killed and wounded, among our dead are Lieutenant Colonels Cedams & Colbern & a few Captains. a deserter since the battle says that not less than seven hundred privates, & a large proportion of officers were carried off wounded from the field, among the wounded he says is Gen; Burgoyne & Col. Ansbruthern. Philips took the command on one little spot not larger than an acre, from which we drove them. I counted thirty five dead bodies — ~~We took~~ an Ensign & Sixty four British soldiers. They have taken no prisoners from us. By the report of a scout who has just returned, the Enemy remain where we left them yesterday. The following is an exact list of the killed wounded — & missing Gen; Poor's brigade taken from the returns just come in.

Kill'd two Lieut Colonels, one Captain one second Lieut 2 Sergeants 22 rank & file = wounded 3 Capts. 6, First Lieut 1 Sargeant Major 14 Sergeants — 2 drummers. 133 rank & file missing 1 Capt; 1 first Lieut 3 Sergeants. 21 rank & file.

I cannot ascertain the loss of Gen; Learned's Brigade, but I do not think it can be great, as they had the least of the fire &c — N. B. another letter says that Capt Allen is the only officer lost of Learned's Brigade.

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Albany. Sept: 21st. 1777.

Dear Sir.

Yesterday I had the pleasure to receive your favour of the 10th instant. The principle on which you defend Congress & our Eastern neighbours in regard to their conduct towards me, is the best they could reason upon. It pleases me much, & brings to mind the remonstrance Membes my own makes a young Swiss peasant, to the Inquisition of Spain and Portugal not on account of the similarity of circumstances but of the manner. I am perfectly easy as to the opinion the Eastern members of Congress or their constituents may please to entertain of me. If it was what they esteem a good one, I should suspect that I had more of the Villain in me than my conscience will allow. On the 19th instant a smart engagement took place between the right wing of the British army, & the left of the one under command of Arnold. I believe the Enemy have sufferd considerably- I enclose you an account of it- as it was given me by a friend. It is evident that if Lincoln with the corps under his command was near, Gates, I should be certain to keep the quarters I am now in; & send part of my family to Saratoga unless the enemy should put a match to the buildings there But as that is not the case & our militia do not turn out, the events of the Campaigne is still doubtful, altho the prospect is now agreeable than it hitherto been. The night before last, & yesterday morning, almost all the Indian warriors that were in turn marched to the army, their number exceeded an hundred, My message to the whole six nations (for the above are, Oneidas Tuscaroras, a few Onandagues & Mawhawks) to come down, was not sent on, at the request of Gen: Arnold for what appeared at that time a good reason. It was however unfortunate, for I believe if they had been there we should have prevailed upon them to have taken the hatchet; all those that were there took it with great satisfaction. I am apprehensive that the enemy

in New-Jersey really meen a diversion in favor of Bur-
goyne, & that he has expected it, or he would never have ven-
tured to bring his whole force with him & not made the
least provision for a retreat; he has even destroyed the
bridge in his rear. we were informed the Gen; Washington
had been reinforced by 30,000 militia, but has been obliged
to retreat. I apprehend they are like the 20.000 which I
had at Fort Edward according to the Connecticut papers.
It would be a severe shake against us, if Howe should gain
Philad^{a}. I do not dislike the account you give of your
home not that I am fond of wronging, but some good
will come from it; & those who have merit & will
in the end succeed. The draft of a Militia law was sent
to convention. I have no copy of this. It is imperfect
as you will easily perceive when you see it;

Mrs. Schuyler & Peggy

thank you for thinking of them. they join me in
compliments. Adieu.

I am dear Sir

Sincerely yours

Ph. Schuyler.

Gov. Morris Esqr.

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Genl Bayley writes thus——

On Wednesday morning 17th at day break Colonel Brown began the attack, set at Liberty 100 of our men which were prisoners— took Prisoners 293 of the Enemy among which were 2 Capt. 7 Lieut & two other officers took Mount Defiance Mount "Hope the french Lines & their Block Houses at the Landing. 200 Batteaus one armed sloop several Gun Boats, on friday took about 100 Prisoners the Prisoners are marched for Connecticut except the 100 took a vast Quantity of Plunder = his, Col Browns water craft are with a Party set out for the South end of Lake George where are all the Boats Baggage & Heavy Cannon— I have not the least doubt of his success— the Divisions consisted of 500 men each Col Brown is reinforced to 700— we mean to keep possession of the Ground gained at Ticonderoga The Field is now opened wide the Time is now come that we may intirely cut off Genl Burgoyns whole army if we exert ourselves our Numbers are not enough to keep what we have & can get I think it duty for every man to turn out with with his Horse & a months Provision which will accomplish undoubtedly our Design— I must call all friends to america, to turn out and come to our assistance a Ticonderoga

Castleton Sept 21st 1777. Jacob Bayley—

PS. General Lincoln is gone to joine General Gates,

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Particulars of the movements of Genl. Lincoln from Sept. 13th. to the 21st. 19th marche in three divisions from Pawlet Commanded by Col: Brown Johnson & Woodbridge Col Brown croped South Bay to relieve our prisoners at the North of Lake George Col Johnson at the same time to divert the Enemy at Independence Col. Woodbridge at Jeheenborough to Cover Col Browns retreat &c on Wednesday morning ye 17th at Daybreak Col Brown began ye attack at Liberty 100 of our men which were prisoners, took prisoners 293, of the Enemy amongst which were five Capts & 7 Lieuts & two other officers, Took mount Defiance, mount "Hope the French Lines & the Block house the Landing 200 Batteaus are armed sloop. several Gun Boats, on Sunday took about 100 prisoners the prisoners are marched for Connecticut except ye 100. took a vast quntity of plunder his water Craft are with a party set out for the South end of Lake George where are all their Boats Baggage & heavy Artillery. I have not the least doubt but they will proceed the Division consists of 500 men each. Col Brown is reinforced now to 700 we mean to keep possession of the ground at Ticonderoga the Field is now opened wide the time is now come that we may intirely cut off Gen Burgoynes whole army if we exert ourselves our numbers are not sufficient to keep what we have & can get I think it the Duty of every man to turn out with his horse & one months provision undoubtedly accomplish our design I must call on all Friends to America to turn out and come to our assistance at Ticonderoga —

Castleton Sept 21. 1777. Jacob Bayley B D G

P. S. Genl Lincoln is gone to join
Genl Gates

A true Copy
attest Peter Sabean Chairman

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Castleton Sept 22. 1777.

Sir

You will see by the Inclosed what we have Done and what we are doing here Gent Lincoln is gone join Gent Gates & left us to act in this Quarter with 1500 men our Ground is too large for our men therefore Request that all the Militia above Charlstown and Eastward march to our assistance with horses Bringing Flour and Beef to serve themselves one month. By which time I hope the whole of Gent Burgoyns army will be in our hands. I think now every man of Spirit will Turn out. Pastering is Good and Plenty This way.

I am your very Humble Servt.

Jacob Bayley. B. D. G.

I send about 100 prisoners to you to Dispose of as you think will be most safe; Some provisions must be sent tomorrow to meet the prisoners as far as one days Travel from hence as we have none to spare. The Number to supply will be about 150 men no Time may be lost in sending along the Militia. I have no man to write for me—you must Excuse mine Please to send the Inclosed as far as you think Proper Gent Arnold has Fought the Right wing of Gent Burgoyns won three Field Peices, the Field and 250 Prisoners Great loss on both sides.

B. Bayley—

(a Copy) attest Peter Saberee Chairman

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Bennington 22nd. September 1777.

Dear General,

I am directed by the Council to inform you that the Rangers of this State under the command of Colo. Samuel Herrick in conjunction with Colo. John Brown of Pittsfield, have the command of Lake George and the Enemies water Craft, as also Mount Defiance, Hope and the French Lines & Ticonderoga, Skeensborough &c. &c.

"Have taken 2 Captains.

" " 9 subalterns

" " 143 Rank & non-Commissioners.

" " 119 Canadians

" " 20 artificers.

293 Total___ And one hundred of our prisoners released, a quantity of provisions and a number of Arms. out of which the one hundred prisoners just mentioned who were taken in the action at Hubbaton furnished, and now set in conjunction with Colos Herrick & Brown. The Enemies water craft consist of 2 or Batteaus and one armed sloop. last friday an action ensued between General Gates & General Burgoyne General Arnold with his division attacked a division of Burgoyn in which General Arnold gained the ground, when the Enemy were reinforced by the main body, when Genl Arnold was obliged to retreat, but being reinforced recovered his own, so that the ground remained 8 o'clock yesterday divided between them, none gained on either side, & the dead unburied, this acct came by express from Genl Gates. Head Quarters yesterday afternoon by major Cochran, who returns this morning with the "Hon. Maj. Lincoln, the major adds that the loss in this engagement is computed by the best acct at between 2 & 3 hundred killed & wounded & taken prisoners. among the wounded is General Burgoyne shot in the bowels. Their loss is of the British troops; the

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Cannon were again heard yesterday, but no particular account of the Execution has yet transpired, the enemy seem determined to ravage all at once, as it is reported they have the whole of their stores & other necessaries with them and cut away the bridge behind them as they advance, they keep their provisions constantly on board their boats in the north river.

I have the Honor to be with the Councils best compliments by order

Your Honors most obedient

"Humble Servant

Joseph Fay Secy

"Hon. General Wolcott

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To the Honourable Committee of Safety of this State at Exeter.

Sir I Here Enclose Send you a Copy of General Bayleys Letters from Castleton & he Enforms me that he Sends a 100 prisoners to be Disposed of a may be thought there are thirfore to Define your Honours to Send By the Bearer Hereof what Rout they must Take and how they Shall be Provided for on the Rode Pray Sr give him all possible Dispatch that can bee

From yours in yr Name and behalf of yr Commite of Safety of this Town.

Peter Sambree Chairman

Charleston September 23 1777.

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A Copy of General Bayley Letter

Dated Castleton 22d Sept.r 1777.

Sir Success attend us as yet in Part we have cut off there Communication we have taken Tie Side Except y.e old Fort Kose Soon to have all Lake Georg taken about 500 prisoners we want help much our Divition is only 1500 men Gen.l Lincoln is gone to join General Gates you and all the Militia Eastward must turn out with Hors and one months provition which will I hope Put and End the Dispute this way + we find since the affair was Compl.d with in y.e month — General arnold fought a Battle two Days ago on the Left of General Gates Great numbers fell on both Sides he took y.e 250 prisoners and 3 field peaces & the field Pray turn out

Jacob Bayley B. D. G.

Col Israel Morey Orford

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In Council Bennington 29th Sept 1777.

Dear Sir

This moment rec'd your favour of this days date requesting Horses and Empty Bags to be forwarded with expedition in consequence of which we have Granted Press Warrents to procure them without loss of time and will be on tomorrow

I am Sir with esteem by order of Council your most obedient Humble Servant.

Joseph Fay Secy.

Cole B Simonds.

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September 23. 1777

Gentlemen

I marched from Manchester to Pawles with the few Troops who had joined me, Monday 8th. Current— the fourteenth a party of 500, men commanded by Colonel Brown were ordered to cross the narrows in South Bay and march for the landing at the North end of Lake George to destroy the enemys boats and stores and relieve a number of our new prisoners there, and if upon enquiry he found an attempt upon Ticonderoga might be made without risking too much he was to do it— alike number were sent to mount Independence under Col Johnson in order to divest at least the enemy there, and take off there attention from the real Object and attack it if a favourable opportunity should offer,— at the same time an other Party of about 500, was sent under Col Woodbridge to Sheensborough who were to Cover Col Brown and march on towards Fort Edward and give the enemy a diversion in that quarter. The success Col Brown hath met with you will learn by the enclosed which is a copy of his Letter to me. he hath acted with great Spirit and informs me that his Officers & war have behaved with bravery— General Warner is with Colonel Johnson at the mount and hath the General Direction of the three parties,— he informs me that no opportunity hath offered by which he might attack lives at mount Independance with a Probability of success. I feel myself very happy in having him there, for I have the greatest confidence in his Prudence, fortitude and zeal— General Bayley who was Col Bailey in the last war, of the State of New-Hampshire, now on the Grants an experienced good Officer is left at Castleton, in the Neighbourhood of the Enemy, will forward supplies and join the Troops if necessary. I moved on Wednesday the 17th to Sheens— borough and marched that way about 700 men with an intention to move towards North River, but the day before the Troops reached me, had information from General Gates

Gates that the Enemy had abandoned, all their posts in their rear, and proposed I should fall on the Enemyes left flank immediately remarched the 700 men on the way back near Pawlets. the next day by two expresses. I received General Gates orders to take post at Stillwater, for the Enemy had not only abandoned the Post in their rear but had broken down all the Bridges immediately on Passing them which evidenced General Burgoyns intention to move forward at all events, I left Pawlets the day before yesterday (Sunday) arrived here last night the troops in, this evening or morning 12 or 14 hundred. The numbers sent out are far short of what I expected there hath been in the grants but 300 including one small regiment of Continental Troops, the Rangers from the Grants and part of their Militia, and the Militia from Berkshire, who came for twenty days only, with all the Massachusetts three months men.

The Prisoners taken at Ticonderoga may soon be expected in Boston, to which place Genl Gates hath ordered them.

An attack on this Part from the Enemy is hourly expected.

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen your most obedient
humble Servant.

B. Lincoln

P. S. as soon as the Affairs at Ticonderoga is over, I will write you more fully. — Therefore desire this letter may not be published.

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Camp near Stillwater Sept 29. 1777

Sir

Since my last to the Council I have received a Letter from General Warner informing me, that on a reinforcement arriving at Mount Independence it was his and the opinion of the officers, that no further service could be rendered by remaining before it. I have a Letter from Col Brown, by which I learn that with the Sloop he had taken and with Gun Boats, he attempted Diamond Island, but that the weather for two or three days previous to his attack was such as to forbid his approaching the Island, In this time the Enemy were informed of his intentions and had so fully fortified themselves as to render his small force quite unequal to the attack he therefore after a short action with very little loss, retired his vessels Boats &c. and marched to Stevensborough where he met General Warner, with part of the other Troops the remainder went by way of Castleton — after discharging the Militia raised in Bankshire; for twenty days, Covering the Rangers, raised on the grounts, at Pawlet, Col Warners Regiment with the Militia of the grounts, at White Creek the remainder of the troops will join us here.

As soon as I can see General Warner and Col Brown and get a particular account of what they have taken will forward it,

I am dear Sir
With regard & esteem
your humble Servant

B. Lincoln —

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Messrs. Mr Ebenzer Swan and Capt. Simon Stevens

Gentlemen

You are hereby Desired to take into your Care and Custody a number of Canadian Prisoners and Torys Sent here by order of Cole Bailey by Capt. Thos. Johnson Lately taking at Ticonderoga — You are desired to take them from here as Soon as Convenaintly can be done and Take Such a General as you Gentlemen shall think Sufficient to Guard Said Prisoners from here To Exeter unless Relieved by the way or by Some other from Some Superior authority or Committee of State from the State of New-Hampshire and you are hereby directed to take Such Care and Charge of Said prisoners and Provided Such Necessarys for them on the way as you Gentlemen shall think Reasonable for their Common Support and them Safely Delivered at Exeter or to Such officer or officers in authority as you shall be Directed to do to do ——

In behalf of the committee

Peter Sanberee } Chairman

Charleston Sept
the 27: 1777

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Bennington 3d October 1777.

Dear Cole,

I have this day rec'd your favour dated Pawlet 1st October inst. and am ordered by this Council to return you their sincere thanks for your spirited behaviour since your appointment, and in particular your late noble enterprise at Lake George Landing & burning a vessel for destroying the enemies water Craft in general to the great disadvantage of the enemy with respect to the appointment of Sergt. Smalley to a Lieutenantsin Capt Woods Company, it will be left with you if a proper recommendation can be obtained & he rais, his quota of men—

Shoes can be had at Shaftsbury as we are informed there is some made there, upwards of 30 pr are ready which you can send for at any time, I heartily wish you success & make no doubt you will conduct yourself agreeable to the trust reposed in you and am Dr Sir by order of Council your most obedient.

"Humble Servant

Thomas Chittenden Presd

Col Samuel Herrick.

Copy examined.

Joseph Fay Secy.

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A letter from his Excellency the Governor dated yesterday with a copy of Gen. Sir Henry Clinton's letter to Gen. Burgoyne taken from a spy who was taken.

Dear Sir — I am this moment favoured with your letter of yesterday, with a letter from Mr. Morris (by a second express) containing the most agreeable accounts from Henry Clinton to Burgoyn now enclosed you. you will observe that Clinton is in no way confident of their being able to forme a junction of their armies, thoug there are nothing but bars between them. I wish nothing more than that Clinton would attempt it. I am persuaded that though the chance of war may at times occasion our prospect to appear gloomy when the enemy push hard, yet it is in that way their ruin must and will be effected and I greatly hope that Clinton not wise enough to improve by example, will like Burgoyne, (flushed with his late succes,) give stretch to his forces, or at least send parties out to try the affection of the inhabitants; in either case, I have not a doubt but he will meet with the same fate, should this not be the case, I hope in a few days to have strength enough to be the assailent. We have nothing new here, since I wrote you yesterday, I have sent a flag to Gen. Clinton for a list of our prisoners &c. which is not yet returned.

The letter from Clinton to Burigoyne, taken from Dan. Taylor, was enclosed in a small silver ball of an oval form about the size of a fusee bullet, and shut with a screw in the middle, when he was taken and brought before me he swallowed it. I mistrusted this to be the case from information I received, and administered him a very strong emitic calculated to operate, either way, This had the desired effect; it brought it from him; but though close watched, he had the art to conceal it a second time, I made him believe I had taken one Capt. Campbell, another messenger who he knew was out on the same business; that I learned from him all I wanted to know, and demanded the ball on pain of being hung up instantly.

and cut open to search for it. This brought it f.
forth. I have been particular in this matter that you may
in future understand this new mode of conveyance.

I am in great haste, with high
esteem "Your most obdt. Servt.

George. Clinton.

Haverhill 29 Nov. 1777.

Sir—

According to your orders I have dispatched three parties into Canada. I was up Connecticut River about 50 miles a few days ago and found two Indians who informed me they are in great confusion in Canada, and that the British Troops were making a Trial to remove but the weather came on too severe upon them caused great confusion. I should be glad to know what number of snow shoes I must procure, and the time to have them in readiness. I have sent by each of the three parties 15£ in specie for their support whilst their Leiut and Vincent are gone for Caughnawaga, they will visit St. Johns, Chamblee by the route I proposed to go for Saint Johns they are very desirous to have every thing prepared against their return for a march— being zealous to push forward.

You will receive this by Major John Wheelock Son of the Revd Dr, Wheelock President of Dartmouth College who is very desirous of going with me Should be glad to have him if your Honor thinks proper— I have discoursed with Gen. Bayley upon the subject of going to St. Johns who thinks it highly necessary and that it be done speedily— all orders sent shall be punctually obeyed without the least loss of time— by Sir—

Your Honor's mst. Obt. Hble. Servant

Timothy Bedel—

Major Genl. Gates,—

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Albany. Oct. 12 1777.

Dear Sir

If arnolds advice had been taken, the Enemy would have been retreted on the 20th of last month. & the fortifications below would in all probability not have been attacked. The same want of vigor has taken place after the action of the 7th instant, Burgoyn retreated on the 8th at night, was followed by an inferior body, on the afternoon of the 9th & now occupies the heights between the barracks at Saratoga, and Fish Kill, with a dispirited army of less than 5,000 — while Gen: Gates army of fifteen thousand are looking at him, for the Gen: by all accounts has never yet been within ten of the enemy. This may be prudent — It is not very gallant. he knows Burgoyne cannot retreat & therfore will not risque an engagement. But if Clinton should be able to push up to this place the tables may be turned upon him, I hope that however that will not be the case!

Saratoga is destroy'd — I expected it would be so! I wrote you or the Speaker so, some days ago. I hear, Gates intends to write Burgoyne on the subject of his devastations, I fear he will not succeed better than with his personal correspondence. The steps the Legislature has taken is not at all mortifying to me. I have been so unfortunate in public life, & have met with so much chagrin in it — that I really do not wish to risque it any longer, I shall soon set down a private Citizen — & if Burgoyne is ruined, will mount my Saratoga a hobby horse and gallop away careing for none but my friends, who I hope, will now and then pay a visit to an old man in his retreat. Adieu.

God bless you! I am yours most sincerely &c.

P. Schuyler

The Hon^ble Gouverneur Morris Esq^r

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Haverhill 30th Nov. 1777

Gentlemen.

According to your orders I proceed immediately on the business you empowered me to transact with the Indians and have brought a number of families down near me who are ready to assist when called upon. I have sent a part of them into Canada to gain what intelligence they can & also to find out the disposition of the inhabitants. I shall have about thirty here this winter, and shall acquaint your honor with every particular I may be informed of during the course of the winter, as I shall endeavour to make all the discoveries in my power that may tend to the advantage of the States, I should be glad to have Three or Four belts if any, to be had for the Indians, also to know if any clothing could be had for them, if there should be any at Springfield, I could get them here by an order for them— should be glad to know by the return of the Bearer Mr John Wheelock— all orders at any time will be cheerfully obeyed without the loss of time— The Indians are very well satisfied with their treatment.

I am Gentlemen

Your most Obt, humble Servt

Timothy Bedel.

To Major Gen. Schuyler— &c.

2.13

Effectual Militia aid for the Northern service — I have adverted to the Military State of your Government to find whether a Resource might not be found there adequate to our present wants and I can assure you from no invidious Purpose, that I most sincerely wish, that it was in the Power of this to give our Northern army, the assistance which they want. But I need but tell you our condition to convince you how unable we are to do it. We have undoubtedly more than five thousand men in the Continental army besides Artificers Teamsters &c. which amounts to near a thousand more, We have been able yet to raise two Battallions for the defence of our Eastern Sea coast, and have upon the requisitions of General Washington & Putnam ordered three thousand of our Militia to the Peekskill who are now gone there, besides these draughts which have extremely weakened us we consider ourselves as fully Liable to further demands in case Mr Howe should attack any our Sea Towns. Providence or up the North River, one or both of these Events we suppose we have every reason to expect. From whence you will easily conceive how unable we are to send any force to the Northward — But as we have been over influenced by a fixed determination that no Injury should ever happen either to our Neighbours or to the General cause of America which it was in our Power to Prevent. The assembly of this State which is now sitting have ordered about two hundred of our Light Horse immediately to Albany, and are contemplating what further assistance it may be in their power to give — Something further will Probably be attempted but considering our exhausted State any measures which may be adopted will fall much short of what they may be intended to Produce — So that I must take the Liberty to represent to your Honors that no considerable aid can be expected from the New England States but what is sent from Massachusetts & New Hampshire;

Your attachment Sir to the rights of America will

I am persuaded induce you to use the great influence you have on the Militia of your State to raise them from that Langour in which they have too Generally almost every where fallen. — and as the recalling of Generels Schuyler & St Clair and appointments of Gent Gates no objection will lye in the minds of the Militia against the Commanding officer. — I hope therefore that the most Vigorous exertions will be made by them at this Critical moment to render the rights to which we have been so long and so nobly contending for. —

I am with great Truth & Regard
Sir — Your obedient
Humble Servant.

Hon President of the
Council of the State of Jon Trumbull.
Massachusetts Bay.

P. S. By Letter of the 4th inst from General Washington. The Fleet of our Enemies has again disappeared and whether gone, remains to be known I have heard nothing of their appearance Eastward.

1776

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Head Quarters Oct. 1st 1777—

Dr Sir

I was just honoured with your favor of the
ult, with the inclosures. I am extremely concerned, th
the situation of affairs in Jersey is such, as to preclu
me from any hope of a further reinforcement fro
thence. The account transmitted by Gen. Dickinson if
is very interesting. But I trust, even the smallest n
ber of Troops, said to have arrived is exaggerated, as
of the public prints, till a late paper or two from New
have made mention of any such force. The report how
added to the contiguity of Staten Island to the main
which affords an easy passage acrofs for inversion
the part of the enemy, holds forth but too just groun
of apprehensions in the Eastern militia, and for th
being employed where they are — If all were united,
would be well. But unhappily in this quarter, Tory
and disaffection too generally mark the conduct of t
people. I will not enlarge — our affairs at present h
an unfavorable appearance. But I hope they will e
for the Letter.

I have the Honor t
with great este
your most Obt Hbl
G Washington

I should be remembered always that if we can destr
the Enemies Grand army the Branches of it fail of cours
G.W. —

P. S.

The situation of our public stores, particularly thos
the ordinance hired at Trenton, gives me great uneasines
have directed every exertion to be employed for their
removal. I must entreat, that any assistance you can
in waggons &c. may be afforded — also that a body
militia, under a spirited officer, if it is possible, may
ordered thence, as a guard, till they can be removed.

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I have spoken to Col. Schuyler upon the subject, to whom I take the liberty of refering you.

Yours
G. Washington

To William Livingston
Govr of New Jersey.